Stat 280
Spring 2013

1. Class meets MWF at 1 PM; location TBA.

2. Labs: The day and time of your lab depends on the section of the class for which you registered.

3. Text: Introduction to the Probability and Statistics - Mendenhall, Beaver, and Beaver. 14th Edition. There is an international edition available. If you purchase this edition, please note that some of the homework problems are different. It is your responsibility to make sure that you work the correct problems.

4. Professor: E. Neely Atkinson

   - office: DH 2099
   - office hours: MWF 2-3, right after class.
   - email: enatk@rice.edu

5. Grading. Your final grade will be based on homework (10%) and tests (90%). There will be weekly homework and lab assignments. There will be two tests and a comprehensive final.

   The final will have two sections, corresponding to the material covered in each of the two previous tests. If you score higher on the section of the final corresponding to a previous test, your score on that section of the final will replace your score for that test. If you are happy with your test scores during the semester, the final is optional.

   There will generally be a homework assignment each week in which class meets. The homework assignments will be posted to Olspace. I will try to remember to repeat the assignment in class, but even if I forget, the assignment is still due, so be sure to watch Owlspace. Late submissions will not be accepted. Homework should be submitted electronically as a single file. The purpose of homework is to learn and practice the material covered in lectures and the text. You may use whatever resources you find helpful to work the assignments, including other students and the Web. However, you must turn in your own work. submissions which are copies of another student's work will be considered a violation of the Honor Code.

   Exams will be in class, closed book and closed notes.

   I guarantee the following scale; thus, if you get an 84, your are guaranteed a B. I reserve the right to adjust the scale downward if I feel that a revised scale would better reflect my evaluation of the class achievement.

98 - 100	A+
93 - 97	A
90 - 92	A-
87-89	B+
83-86	B
80-82	B-
77-79	C+
73-76	C
70-72	C-
67-69	D+
63-66	D
60-62	D-
<60	F

6. Software. We will use Excel for the class. In lectures, I will use Excel 2010. All sample Excel output on exams will also be from Excel 2010. Unfortunately, this is a Windows version. The Mac version (Excel 2011) does not have the data analysis toolpack we will be using, although it does provide all the required functionality. Excel will be available in the computer labs.

7. Getting help. Class lectures will cover material in the book. There will be labs to help you learn Excel and to answer questions about problem solving. I will also hold regular office hours and will respond to emails. You are encouraged to ask questions in class - if you don't understand something, somebody else doesn't either.

8. Labs. There will be a lab session each week. Labs focus on problem solving. They will show you how to use Excel to work problems. They are also chances for you to ask questions about class material or get help with homework. There are no formal lab assignments but you are highly encouraged to attend.

9. Course Outline. This is a rough outline of the material. This may be adjusted depending on how the class progesses.

   (a) Week 1, 1/7 - 1/11: Chapter 1 - graphs
   (b) Week 2, 1/14 - 1/18: Chapter 2 - numerical summaries
   (c) Week 3, 1/23 - 1/25: Chapter 4 - probability (short week)
   (d) Week 4, 1/28 - 2/1: Chapter 5 - discrete distributions
   (e) Week 5, 2/4 - 2/8: Chapter 6 - the normal distribution
   (f) Week 6, 2/11 - 2/15: Chapter 7 - sampling distributions
   (g) Week 7, 2/18 - 2/22: review and test 1
   (h) Spring Break: 2/25 - 3/1

(i) Week 8, 3/4 - 3/8: Chapter 8 - large sample estimation

(j) Week 9, 3/11 - 3/15: Chapter 9 - large sample tests of hypotheses

(k) Week 10, 3/18 - 3/22: Chapter 9 continued; Chapter 10 - inference from small samples

(l) Week 11, 3/25 - 3/27: Chapter 10 continued (short week)

(m) Week 12, 4/1 - 4/5: Chapter 12 - linear regression and correlation

(n) Week 13, 4/8 - 4/12: review and test 2.

(o) Week 14, 4/15 - 4/19: comprehensive review for final

(p) Comprehensive final exam

10. I do not take attendance in class or labs, but you are encouraged to attend both. I may give hints in class which will be helpful on exams but which do not appear in the review handouts.

11. If you know that you will be gone due to official school activities, contact me before your absence to make arrangements for any homework, labs, or tests during your absence.

12. If you have a disability that requires accommodation, please contact both me and Disability Support Services in Allen Center. Possible accommodations include include, but are not limited to, extra time for tests, special settings for tests, the services of a note taker, and permission to record lectures. I will treat your request as confidential and make the accommodation as confidential as is practically possible.

Purposes of class. This course is meant to give you a solid grounding in the basic principles of statistical analysis. At the end of this course:

- You will understand the basic principles which underlie all statistical analyses.
- You be be able to perform a range of basic statistical analyses.
- You will be able to understand the ideas behind more advanced analyses, even if you do not completely understand all the details of the analyses or are not able to perform them yourself.
- You will be able to consult effectively with an expert statistician if the need arises in your work for the use of advanced techniques.